

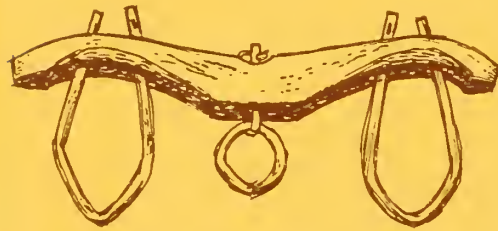
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Lincoln Dioramas

Chicago Historical Society

LINCOLN ROOM


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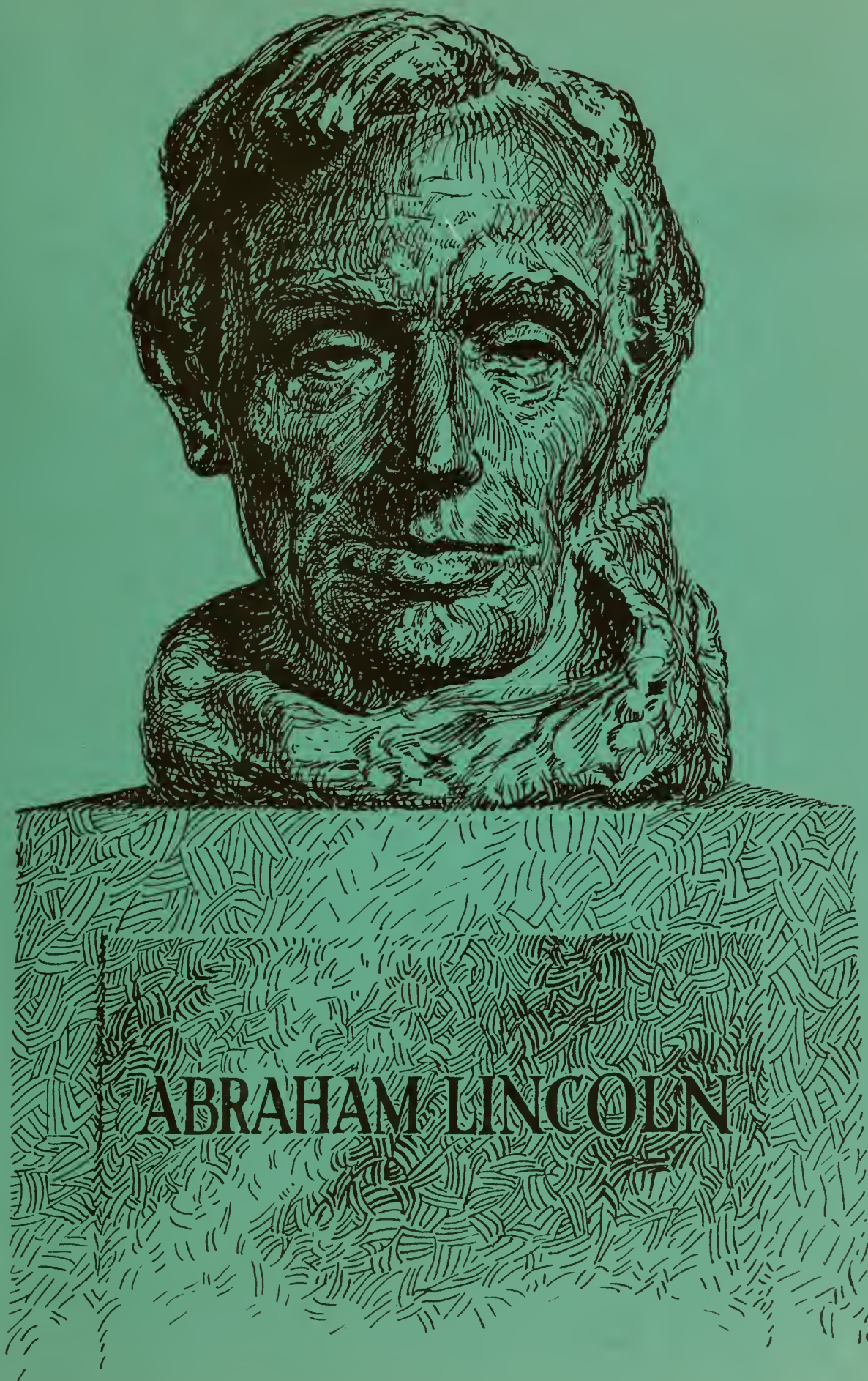




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# LINCOLN DIORAMAS

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Clark Street at North Avenue

Chicago, Illinois

**W**HEN Abraham Lincoln was interviewed for the purpose of getting material for a campaign biography, he said, with becoming modesty, "It is a great piece of folly to attempt to make anything out of me or my early life. It can all be condensed into a single sentence, and that sentence you will find in Gray's *Elegy*, 'The short and simple annals of the poor.' That's my life and that's all you or anyone else can make out of it." Lincoln could not realize how important a role he was to play in history. In his rise from a simple log cabin to the White House, he exemplifies the American way of life.

The Lincoln Dioramas were made by the Museum Extension Program of Illinois, under the sponsorship of the Chicago Board of Education. The subjects for the twenty dioramas were determined after careful study by the Chicago Historical Society in collaboration with a group of eminent Lincoln authorities.

Beginning in March of 1939, it was necessary to devote months of painstaking research to assure accuracy in every detail before the plan for each diorama could be drawn. From the time when actual construction work was begun late in 1939 until November of 1941, never less than fifty craftsmen have been busily engaged in modeling, carving and painting figures or designing the colorful backgrounds. More than ten thousand figures were cast for the dioramas; of that number six thousand were selected for use. These figures vary in size from one-half inch to nineteen inches. The most difficult piece of sculpture in the dioramas is the reproduction of the Daniel French Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C.

Countless technical problems were encountered and solved during the three years of construction. The backgrounds of each diorama were repainted many times until an effect was achieved which gives the illusion of depth and seems to make the horizons fade into infinity. A natural sunset in the Ohio River scene was finally accomplished after many days of experimenting with different types of gauze and chiffon.

An unusual material, lucite, was used in a number of the dioramas. The waterfall, river, chandeliers, candlesticks and glass of water are all made of this modern plastic. The icicles in the second diorama were made of blown glass. In this same scene, what seem to be iron pots in the fireplace are actually wood, painted to look like iron. The books on the shelves are small sections of a telephone directory bound with pasteboard covers. The corn cobs hanging from the ceiling are plaster cast but the shucks are real. The spinning wheel in this second diorama actually works. The rag rug on the floor was woven in the same manner as a full size rug. The cotton bales in the Ohio River scene were packed by a negro woman born and raised in the cotton country.

This diorama series, the most recent addition to the Lincoln Collection in the Chicago Historical Society, is arranged in chronological order beginning with the Hodgenville Cabin scene on the right when entering the Diorama Gallery. The final scene in the series is a reproduction of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C.

Notes concerning other Lincoln exhibits will be found on the last page of this booklet.





### HODGENVILLE CABIN, 1809-1811

Abraham Lincoln was born in a log cabin near Hodgenville, Kentucky, February 12, 1809. Nancy Hanks Lincoln, seated near the door of the cabin, holds her infant son, while Abraham's sister Sarah stands nearby. Thomas Lincoln, Abraham's father, is just returning to the house with a bucket of water from the spring shown in the foreground.

Historians disagree as to Nancy Hanks Lincoln's physical appearance but seem in perfect accord regarding her intelligence and remarkably keen perception.

Of Thomas Lincoln, it is said that he was slow and deliberate, inoffensively quiet, but when aroused he was a dangerous antagonist. He had a liking for jokes and stories, which was one of the few traits he transmitted to his illustrious son. At the time of his marriage to Nancy Hanks, he could neither read nor write; but his wife, who was gifted with more education, and was otherwise his mental superior, taught him, it is said, to write his name and to read.

Lincoln himself could trace his line no farther back than to certain ancestors in Berks County, Pennsylvania, whom he vaguely described as Quakers; but research has disclosed a lineage reaching back to Samuel Lincoln who came from Hingham, England, and settled in Hingham, Massachusetts in 1637.

Such was the heritage of Abraham Lincoln.





### LINCOLN STUDYING BY THE FIREPLACE, INDIANA, 1824

In 1816, Thomas Lincoln moved his family to what is now Spencer County, Indiana, a mile and a half east of Gentryville. Here in the winter of 1824-25, we see fifteen-year-old Abe studying by the fire. His stepmother, Sarah Bush Lincoln, sits nearby knitting as her husband enters.

Lincoln's mother, Nancy, had died in 1818 when he was but nine years old. Thomas Lincoln soon found another wife, Sarah Bush, a widow, who with her three children came to the Indiana cabin. At one time there were nine people living in this small cabin.

The Lincolns had reached their new home about the time Indiana came into the Union. There were some schools, so-called, but no qualification was ever required of a teacher beyond reading, writing and arithmetic. Lincoln was an easy-going backwoods boy who did his part of the hard labor around the house, performed odd jobs for neighbors and used his leisure time for self improvement by reading a few good books. Among these were the Bible, Robinson Crusoe, Pilgrim's Progress, Aesop's Fables, Grimshaw's History of the United States, Weems' Life of Washington and biographies of other important early Americans.

The Lincoln family remained in their Indiana home until Abraham Lincoln was twenty-one when they moved to Macon County in Illinois.



### MIGRATION TO ILLINOIS, 1830

Through March floods and thaws, the Lincoln family migrated to Illinois, where they settled in Macon County, about eight miles southwest of Decatur. Leaving Indiana, they found the high water of the Wabash overflowing its banks into the low prairie near Vincennes where they crossed. When young Abe's dog jumped out of the wagon and was stranded in the icy water, he removed his boots and waded back to save his pet. Notice the wooden stakes which marked the route through the flooded area.

One of the chief reasons for Thomas Lincoln's decision to leave Indiana was the fact that he still owed the government more than he was likely ever to pay toward the completion of his purchase of Indiana land.

Before starting on the trip, Abraham Lincoln purchased thirty-six dollars worth of needles, pins, thread, buttons and other small articles of domestic use, including a set of knives and forks, which he peddled along the way. Several months later Lincoln wrote to the storekeeper that he had doubled his money on the sale of those articles.

It is probable that in Vincennes on this journey, Lincoln saw Indians for the first time. A few years later he fought against the Indians under Captain Jefferson Davis in the Black Hawk War.





### LINCOLN, THE STOREKEEPER, 1833

Lincoln lived in New Salem, Illinois, from the summer of 1831 until 1837. During this period he was store clerk, captain in the Black Hawk War, surveyor, postmaster, law student and member of the State Legislature. Here in the spring of 1833, he waited on trade in the Lincoln-Berry Store. His customer in this scene is Ann Rutledge, who is said to have been his first sweetheart.

Lincoln's business venture in the Lincoln-Berry Store was not a success. The two partners succeeded only in falling deeper into debt until the store "winked out," as Lincoln said. The insignificant position as postmaster in New Salem then became Lincoln's main source of livelihood. To augment his income, he also surveyed land in the neighborhood. On calls to survey a piece of land, Lincoln often placed inside his hat letters belonging to people in the neighborhood and distributed them along the way.

In 1834 when he was elected to the legislature, Lincoln began his law studies. In the autumn of 1836 he obtained a law license and on March 15, 1837, he moved to Springfield, Illinois, and commenced his practice of law.



### SCENE ON THE OHIO RIVER, 1841

Lincoln is shown returning from a visit to Louisville, Kentucky, aboard the steamboat Lebanon on the Ohio River, in September, 1841. He stands on the upper deck looking down at a group of slaves shackled with chains.

A gentleman had purchased a dozen negroes in different parts of Kentucky and was taking them to a farm in the South. Lincoln described the slaves as being chained six and six together, a small iron clevis was around the left wrist of each and this was fastened to the main chain by a shorter one so that they were strung together precisely like so many fish upon a trotline. They were being separated forever from their friends, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, wives and children. The memory of this constantly returned to depress Lincoln and did much to increase his determination to free the slaves.

In order that he might recover from the combined strain of overwork and shock at the breaking up of his wedding plans, Lincoln had been induced to visit Louisville. Early in August he started on his journey, traveling by stage coach. He rested in Louisville for almost two months and returned to the North improved in mind and body.





### RIDING THE CIRCUIT, 1849-60

In Lincoln's day, lawyers rode the circuit, going from one county seat to another to attend court. Here we see Lincoln, the attorney, arriving at the Court House square in Metamora, Woodford County, Illinois, for the semi-annual session of the Circuit Court. Court week was a busy time. People from the surrounding countryside came into town to buy their semi-annual supplies and mingle with their friends.

In his more than twenty-three years at the bar, Lincoln had no less than one hundred and seventy-five cases before the highest court of Illinois, a record unsurpassed by his contemporaries. When speaking to juries, he took great pains to make himself understood. He spoke directly and exclusively to them. His statements were clear and simple. His sentences were short, compact and distinct; his words plain and familiar. He spoke the language of the jurymen, the speech of the people. He never made notes on testimony, but remembered every word of it. He never asked an unnecessary question and never attempted to confuse or distract or alarm witnesses. In the conduct of the most exciting case, Lincoln displayed no emotion; perfectly calm, he appeared to be without either enthusiasm or apprehension.



### SPEAKING IN CHICAGO, TREMONT HOUSE, JULY 10, 1858

The Tremont House, which stood at the southeast corner of Lake and Dearborn streets, was the scene of the beginning of Lincoln's unsuccessful campaign for the United States Senate against Judge Stephen A. Douglas. Lincoln addressed a large group of people from the Lake Street balcony of the hotel on the evening of July 10, 1858. The Tremont House speech is important because then Lincoln declared, perhaps more emphatically than ever before, his opposition to slavery.

The Chicago Press and Tribune reported that "the audience assembled to hear Hon. Abraham Lincoln on Saturday evening was in point of numbers, about three-fourths as large as that of the previous evening, when Douglas held forth; and in point of enthusiasm about four times as great . . . The essential difference in the two demonstrations was simply that the Lincoln audience was enthusiastically for Lincoln, and the Douglas audience was but qualified in favor of anybody." When Douglas spoke on the preceding evening, July 9, Lincoln was present and heard himself referred to as a kind, amiable, high-minded gentleman, a good citizen and an honorable opponent.

On July 24, when Lincoln once again visited Chicago, he challenged Douglas to a series of joint discussions, and Douglas, under protest, accepted, designating seven cities, each in a congressional district where neither had yet spoken.





### FREEPORT DEBATE, AUGUST 27, 1858

One of the most important of the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates was held at Freeport, Illinois, on August 27, 1858. The occasion drew one of the largest crowds ever assembled in northern Illinois. The two contestants for the United States Senate debated from a platform set in a grove near the Brewster House. Lincoln is answering his opponent, Judge Douglas, who sits nearby.

A little before two o'clock, the speakers had been escorted to the stand. Arrangements had been made by the supporters of Douglas to take their champion over in a splendid carriage, drawn by white horses. The Republicans chose a more appropriate conveyance, chartering a regular old-fashioned Pennsylvania wagon for Lincoln and a group of farmers from the district.

There was a very large crowd. Communities from all over the state were represented, including a delegation from Carroll County and special trainloads of spectators from Amboy, Dixon, Polo, Galena, Rockford, Marengo and Belvidere. Lincoln and Douglas were greeted by a storm of applause and deafening cheers.

The election of Douglas to the United States Senate after his series of debates with Lincoln was a great personal triumph. Lincoln felt the defeat keenly but before two weeks had passed he could treat the matter in a joking vein and declare he was "convalescent."



### NOTIFICATION OF NOMINATION, SPRINGFIELD, MAY 19, 1860

At the close of the Republican National Convention in Chicago, a special train carried the official committee to Springfield to notify Abraham Lincoln of his nomination as the Republican candidate for the presidency. In the parlor of his home, Lincoln received the committee at about 8:00 o'clock in the evening. George Ashmun, president of the convention is shown handing Lincoln the official letter. The glow of festive bonfires may be seen through the windows.

What Mr. Lincoln's feelings may have been over his nomination will never be known; doubtless he was gratified, but there was no visible elation. After the momentarily assumed dignity, he was himself again—plain Abraham Lincoln—the man of the people.

After the formalities, Lincoln said, "Mrs. Lincoln will be pleased to see you, gentlemen. You will find a pitcher of water in the library." There was humor in the invitation to take a glass of water, for when it was known that the committee was coming, several citizens called upon Mr. Lincoln and informed him that some entertainment must be provided and that they would be glad to furnish the liquors. "Gentlemen," said Lincoln, "I thank you for your kind intentions, but most respectfully decline your offer. I have no liquors in my house, and have never been in the habit of entertaining my friends in that way. I cannot permit my friends to do for me what I will not do myself. I shall provide cold water—nothing else."





### SPRINGFIELD CAMPAIGN RALLY, AUGUST 8, 1860

The Springfield Campaign Rally was a large and most magnificent political demonstration. It was composed of delegations of Illinois Wide Awake Clubs which had been organized throughout the country to further Lincoln's Presidential Campaign. Lincoln, surrounded by intimate friends, reviewed an eight mile parade which passed his home from early morning until afternoon.

At the head of the procession was a large rolling ball, indicating the onward march of Republican principles. The Springfield Woolen Mills was represented by an immense wagon containing a power loom, driven by a small steam engine. During the procession, they made several yards of substantial jeans cloth, from which a pair of pantaloons for Mr. Lincoln were cut and made up. In the Williamsville delegation was an immense wagon drawn by twenty-three yoke of oxen. This wagon carried a series of workshops showing a blacksmith shoeing a horse, another forging a shoe, a wheelwright making a wheel, a gang of men splitting rails, and carpenters, tinners, weavers and shoemakers.

The Wide-Awakes originated in the city of Hartford, Connecticut. Republicans all over the North wrote to Hartford, asking for information to form these clubs which were Republican party auxiliaries. They were semi-military in character, but political in purpose and played an important role in Lincoln's campaign parades.





### LEAVING SPRINGFIELD FOR WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 11, 1861

In spite of the cold and rainy morning, hundreds of Springfield friends and neighbors gathered at the Great Western Railway station to bid farewell to the president-elect. Every head was bared as he delivered his eloquent remarks from the rear platform of his special train. The military guards at each side of the train were Major David Hunter on the left and Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth on the right.

The simplest and best known version of Lincoln's "Farewell Address," is given here:

"My friends — No one not in my position can appreciate the sadness I feel at this parting. To this people I owe all that I am. Here I have lived more than a quarter of a century, here my children were born, and here one of them lies buried. I know not how soon I shall see you all again. A duty devolves upon me which is, perhaps, greater than that which has devolved upon any other man since the days of Washington. He never would have succeeded except for the aid of Divine Providence, upon which he at all times relied. I feel that I cannot succeed without the same Divine aid which sustained him; and on the same Almighty Being I place my reliance for support, and I hope you, my friends, will all pray that I may receive that Divine assistance, without which I cannot succeed, but with which success is certain. Again I bid you all an affectionate farewell."



### THE FIRST INAUGURAL, MARCH 4, 1861

Lincoln took the oath of office as President of the United States from a platform erected on the east steps of the unfinished capitol building. He stands under the canopy with Chief Justice Robert E. Taney, who administered the oath of office.

When Lincoln came forward on the stand it was evident to those who knew him that he had been especially dressed for the occasion. He wore a dress coat probably for the first time in his life; a brand new silk hat, and a heavy gold-headed cane completed a costume in which the owner looked, and was, exceedingly uncomfortable and awkward. After standing hesitantly a moment, his cane in one hand and hat in the other, he placed the cane in the angle of the railing, but the disposition of the hat evidently puzzled him. There was no room on the small table and he did not like to put it on the floor, so there Lincoln stood in the concentrated gaze of assembled thousands, clutching the glossy beaver and looking around in painful embarrassment. Stephen A. Douglas, who occupied a seat on the inaugural stand, voluntarily rose and graciously took the hat and held it until the conclusion of Lincoln's inaugural address.





### EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION, SEPTEMBER 22, 1862

Lincoln had prepared a preliminary Emancipation Proclamation in July, 1862. On the advice of his Cabinet, its release to the public was postponed until five days after the Union victory at the Battle of Antietam on September 17. The Cabinet members present listen to Lincoln as he reads. He commented as he went along as though he had considered the Proclamation in all its phases. This Proclamation stated that on January 1, 1863, all slaves in States or parts of States in rebellion against the United States "shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free" and the Federal Government would "recognize the freedom of such persons."

The final Proclamation was signed by the President on January 1, 1863. On that afternoon, when Lincoln sat at his desk with pen in hand, he said, "I never, in my life have felt more certain that I was doing right, than I do in signing this paper."

The original draft of the Emancipation Proclamation was on exhibit at the Chicago Historical Society prior to the Chicago Fire of 1871. During the fire, an officer of the Society, risking his life, tried unsuccessfully to remove the Proclamation from the burning Museum building.



### ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, OCTOBER, 1862

On October 1, Lincoln paid an unannounced visit to the Army of the Potomac to inspect the condition of the forces after the Battle of Antietam. He spent several days riding through the camps and conferring with officers. Lincoln is talking with General George B. McClellan, Commander of the Army of the Potomac. To the rear, in civilian clothes, is Allan Pinkerton, Chief of the Secret Service.

General McClellan was generally criticized for not striking more quickly at the scattered Confederate forces and, after the Battle of Antietam, for not pursuing Lee's army. Early in October McClellan was asked by the President: "Are you not overcautious when you assume that you cannot do what the enemy is constantly doing?"

If McClellan overestimated the Confederates, it must be remembered that, despite the hampering influence of officious meddling and machinations of political leaders, he had whipped into an effective fighting unit the Army of the Potomac which, before his command, had been a heterogeneous mass of raw recruits.

Two years later in 1864, the Democratic party met in convention on August 29 in Chicago and nominated General McClellan for President to run against Lincoln. McClellan received 21 electoral votes to Lincoln's 212.





### GETTYSBURG ADDRESS, NOVEMBER 19, 1863

Lincoln, surrounded by his cabinet, foreign ministers, secretaries and officers of the Army and Navy, is shown delivering his immortal address. At the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, the orator of the day was Edward Everett of Massachusetts. His scholarly and lengthy speech was followed by the concise, historic masterpiece of President Lincoln.

Conflicting stories are told as to when Lincoln wrote the Gettysburg address. One colorful version, which has been discounted, says Lincoln had not prepared his speech in Washington and expected to make notes during the journey. With a broken stub of a pencil and on a piece of wrapping paper he picked up from the floor, he wrote what has been termed one of the greatest speeches of history. Authorities, however, generally agree that the address was completed in Washington, although Lincoln made minor changes at Gettysburg. At the dedication, the President read slowly from manuscript. Tired by the two hour oration of Edward Everett, the crowd applauded without enthusiasm. Contrary to the general belief, some American critics recognized the literary merit of the address almost at once; others for partisan reasons, belittled or denounced it.





### LINCOLN'S FIRST MEETING WITH GRANT, MARCH 8, 1864

General Ulysses S. Grant visited the White House for the first time on the evening of March 8, 1864. Unaware that President and Mrs. Lincoln were holding a reception, he appeared in his worn and faded service uniform. He was warmly welcomed by President Lincoln, who, although he had never met Grant, had recently appointed him Lieutenant General, making him Commander-in-Chief, under the President, of all the armies of the United States.

As Grant entered a hush fell over the room. The crowd moved back and left the two chief men of the nation facing each other. It was an impressive meeting. For only an instant they stood there. Then Grant passed on into the East Room. He was cheered enthusiastically by the crowd of assembled guests. They recognized in him the plain man his friends had claimed him to be—homespun, unaffected, sincere and resolute.

Later the President informed Grant that the formal presentation of his military commission would be made the following morning at ten o'clock.

When General Grant escaped from the close air of the reception, he wiped his brow and with a long breath of relief said, "I hope that ends the show business."



### LINCOLN ENTERING RICHMOND, APRIL 4, 1865

Abraham Lincoln first entered the surrendered city of Richmond, Virginia, the day after it had ceased to be the capital of the Southern Confederacy. This visit to Richmond was arranged at the last minute; it was in no way a triumphal entry. Accompanied by his son, Tad, the President walked through the city to the Executive Mansion which Jefferson Davis had left so recently.

All along the way, the streets and windows were crowded with both negro and white spectators. One aged negro broke through the line to pay homage to the man who had given him his freedom. But, on the whole, it was a silent crowd. They made no sign of either welcome or hatred.

The burning and evacuation of Richmond was the dramatic and tragic end of the Confederate capital and signalled the fall of the Confederacy which took place six days later at Appomattox Courthouse. Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, and the members of his cabinet had hurriedly left Richmond, with the hope of re-establishing their government west of the Mississippi river. Mobs temporarily took control, looting shops and warehouses until the Union troops entered the city on April 3.





### THE PARDON, APRIL 14, 1865

One of Lincoln's last official orders was an act of mercy. During the afternoon of the day of his assassination, he signed a pardon for a young soldier sentenced to be shot for desertion, remarking, "Well, I think the boy can do us more good above ground than under ground." The boy's mother is seen kneeling before the President in his office, weeping in gratitude for her son's life.

Throughout the war years, petitioners on behalf of both Union and Confederate prisoners of war came to the president's office every hour of the day. Most of the soldiers whose lives hung in the balance were young, as only ten percent of the Union troops were over 30 years old.

Generals in the army objected to Lincoln's leniency in granting pardons. He was severely criticized by one weekly newspaper of the day which charged he had ulterior motives for pardoning military rebels. On at least one occasion, Stanton, Secretary of War, held up one of Lincoln's pardons and strenuously objected when the president's order was carried out.

One of the most dramatic pardons was that for Private William Scott who was court-martialed for sleeping on sentry duty and sentenced to be shot. Scott vindicated Lincoln's faith in him by his outstanding bravery in battle.



### FORD'S THEATRE, APRIL 14, 1865

Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln attended the April 14 evening performance at Ford's Theatre in a festive mood, for the war was over and a great burden had been lifted from the President's shoulders. Major H. R. Rathbone and his fiancée accompanied them. Lincoln was enjoying the performance of Laura Keane in the comedy, "Our American Cousin," when John Wilkes Booth, his assassin, entered the box and fired the fatal shot.

The Presidential party had arrived at the theatre late. The play was already in progress, but the orchestra struck up "Hail to the Chief," and the audience rose and cheered. After Lincoln had acknowledged the applause by bowing repeatedly, he seated himself in the comfortable armchair which had been provided for him and proceeded to enjoy the comedy.

It was during the second scene of the third act that John Wilkes Booth entered the Lincoln box. After firing the shot, Booth leaped for the stage, shouting "Sic Semper Tyrannis," and fled. As he jumped, his spur caught in one of the American flags draped below the President's box and threw him to the stage, breaking his leg.

Booth was later killed in capture on April 26 when he was discovered hiding in a tobacco shed on the Garrett farm near Port Royal, Virginia.





## LINCOLN MEMORIAL, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Near the western end of Potomac Park in Washington, D. C., stands the stately marble structure dedicated to the memory of Abraham Lincoln. Set in the central hall of the Memorial is the marble statue of Lincoln by Daniel Chester French, one of the largest statues ever carved, weighing 150 tons without its pedestal.

On the wall, over the head of Lincoln, these words appear: "In this temple, as in the hearts of the people for whom he saved the Union, the memory of Abraham Lincoln is enshrined forever."

A movement in favor of the erection of a suitable memorial to Abraham Lincoln had been started almost immediately after his assassination. Congress passed acts in both 1867 and 1902 authorizing its construction but no real progress was made until a commission was created on February 9, 1911. The architect, Bacon, the sculptor, Daniel Chester French and the artist, Jules Guerin collaborated to create the four features of the memorial: the statue; inscriptions of the Gettysburg Speech and Second Inaugural Address; and symbolic paintings of the union of the United States which Lincoln had saved. The building was dedicated on May 30, 1922, before a crowd of 50,000 spectators.

"Now he belongs to the ages."



The massive head of Lincoln by Gutzon Borglum, sketched on the cover, dominates one wall of Lincoln Hall on the third floor of the Society's building. Near this head is a life mask and an impression of Lincoln's hands taken after his nomination to the presidency. The countless handclasps of his well-wishers caused Lincoln's right hand to swell; this accounts for the noticeable difference in size between the bronze impressions of the two hands.

On either side of the large G. P. A. Healy portrait of Lincoln are cases exhibiting personal effects, including the coat the President wore to Ford's Theatre. Mounted directly in front of the Healy portrait is a manuscript of timely interest; Lincoln's definition of a democracy.

The east exit of Lincoln Hall leads directly to the replicas of the Lincoln Springfield Parlor and the Petersen Bedroom in Washington, D. C. The furnishings in the parlor were used by the Lincoln family during their residence in Springfield, Illinois. It is said that the old fashioned horsehair rocker near the fireplace was one of Lincoln's favorite chairs.

The simple, wooden dresser, chair and bed are placed in the Society's replica of the Petersen Bedroom just as they stood in the original room in Washington, D. C., when Lincoln was carried there after he had been shot by Booth at Ford's Theatre. The Society secured these original furnishings through a Chicago collector and has exhibited them since the middle 1920's. A copy of this Lincoln deathbed was made for exhibition in the Petersen House in Washington, D. C.

The exhibit immediately following the Lincoln rooms shows a series of three typical middle 19th century stores of the Lincoln period; a pharmacy, general store and postoffice, and shoe shop and saddlery. In the Pioneer Room stands a replica of the Lincoln birthplace cabin in Hodgenville, Kentucky. This cabin was exhibited at the Century of Progress, 1933-34, and following the close of the fair, it was brought to the Society.

Including the Lincoln books and manuscripts on public view in the Lincoln rooms, the Library has a collection of over 700 books, almost 740 pamphlets and more than 135 manuscripts relating to Lincoln.

The windows of the Lincoln Alcove on the third floor look out upon the impressive St. Gaudens' statue of Lincoln which stands near the promenade leading from the Chicago Historical Society into the heart of Lincoln Park.



















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